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In Re Application of: Daniel Serra, Richard Hoare
US Application Number: 10/575,846
Filing Date: 14 April 2006
Title: Sandwich Press and Grill
Group Art Unit: 3742
Examiner:
Attorney Docket No: BRE0325U

23 October 2008

Dear Sirs,

The Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action Summary and Detailed Action mailed on October 8, 2008.

An Information Disclosure Statement is attached. A material reference was revealed in the corresponding Australian divisional innovation patent application by way of an examiner's report dated 9 October 2008.

In response to the examiner's restriction and/or election requirement, the Applicant now submits claim amendments. Claims 1-15 have been cancelled, claim 21 has cancelled and the remaining claims have been amended. New claims 24-30 are also presented for the first time. Thus, the claims have been limited to the invention of claim 1, that is, a full length drip tray that is contained within the lower housing and

that is removable from the lower housing by sliding it out from a front of the lower housing.

The closest prior art is considered by the Applicant to be US 6,433,312 which is listed in the Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (attached). Unlike that reference, the present invention is both full length and removable from the lower housing by sliding it out of a front of the lower housing. The claimed invention is easier to use and presents a potentially smaller countertop footprint by allowing the user to remove the drip tray from the front of the unit rather than from the side. Items on a kitchen countertop are often placed side by side. Thus, side removal of the drip tray is not as practical as front removal.

Attached please find Information Disclosure Forms relating to US patent documents and two websites.

The documents are considered to be background art.

Regards,



Michael Molins
Reg. No. 31785
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Encl. Information Disclosure Statement
Amended Claims

MM/rm